

REMARKS

Applicants have now had an opportunity to carefully consider the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action mailed January 31, 2008.

Reconsideration of the amended application is requested.

The Office Action

Claims 1-3 and 6-12 remain in this application. **Claims 4 and 5** have been canceled.

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 11, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eguchi et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0117666) in view of Watanabe (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0164990).

Claims 5, 9, and 10 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but have otherwise been indicated as containing allowable subject matter, and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of **claim 5**.

Claim 5 has been cancelled. Consequently, any objections and/or rejections related thereto are now moot.

Claim 9 has been indicated by the Examiner as containing allowable subject matter. It has been amended to place it in independent format.

Additionally, **claims 2-3, 6-9, and 10-12** are also submitted as allowable at least inasmuch as they depend from one of the foregoing allowable independent claims.

CONCLUSION

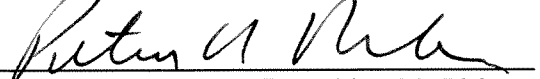
For the reasons detailed above, it is submitted all remaining claims (**Claims 1-3 and 6-12**) are now in condition for allowance. The foregoing comments do not require unnecessary additional search or examination.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any filing or prosecution fees which may be required, under 37 CFR 1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 (but not 1.18), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 24-0037.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he/she is hereby authorized to call Patrick R. Roche, at Telephone Number (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY SPARPE LLP


Patrick R. Roche, Reg. No. 29,580
1100 Superior Avenue, Seventh Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114-2579
216-861-5582


Date

N:\XERZ\201653\SMW0000012V001.DOCX